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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

### 24-HOUR REPORT

**28 DECEMBER 2018**

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#### (U) CALIFORNIA

##### **(U) Trabuco Canyon – Holy Fire Arson Suspect's Trial Moves Forward**

(U) An Orange County Superior Court judge ruled yesterday that there is enough evidence for a man accused of setting the Holy fire to stand trial on arson charges. The judge dismissed two felony counts of resisting arrest that had been filed against Forrest Gordon Clark, 51, at the request of prosecutors because of a lack of evidence. Clark still faces four felony charges, including arson and criminal threats. He has pleaded not guilty and is being held in county jail in lieu of \$1-million bail.

SOURCE: 27 December 2018, [Los Angeles Times](#)

#### (U) NATIONAL

##### **(U) District of Columbia – On Duty Police Officer Deaths Increase in 2018**

(U) Washington – More police officers have died in the line of duty this year in the United States than in 2017, according to data released yesterday. The most common cause of death was gunfire, and vehicular accidents claimed nearly as many officers' lives. The National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund said in a report that 144 federal, state and local officers have died so far in 2018. That figure represents roughly a 12 percent increase from the 129 who died in 2017.

SOURCE: 26 December 2018, [SF Gate](#)

##### **(U) Massachusetts – Boston Marathon Bomber Appeals Conviction, Death Sentence**

(U) Boston – Lawyers for Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev yesterday asked an appellate court to overturn his conviction and death penalty sentence for helping carry out the 2013 attack, which killed three people and wounded more than 260 others. Lawyers for Tsarnaev, 25, argued in a brief filed with the 1st US Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston that a lower-court judge's refusal to move the case to another city not traumatized by the bombings deprived him of a fair trial. The attorneys acknowledged that their client carried out the attack along with his now-deceased brother, Tamerlan Tsarnaev.

SOURCE: 27 December 2018, [Reuters](#)

#### (U) INTERNATIONAL

##### **(U) Burkina Faso – Unidentified Gunmen Kills 10 Military Police**

(U) Loroni – Gunmen killed 10 military police in a village near the Malian border this week, Burkina Faso's security ministry said, in a further sign of deteriorating security in a country once seen as one of the region's more stable. The assailants attacked and set fire to a school on 26 December in Loroni, a village about 155 miles northwest of the capital Ouagadougou. Two patrols of gendarmes, or military police, were sent to arrest the attackers but ran into an ambush that killed 10 of them and wounded an unknown number of others. Security has worsened in Burkina Faso in recent months, primarily due to Islamist militant attacks near the landlocked country's porous border with Mali. Ouagadougou has also been hit by several major attacks over the past three years.

SOURCE: 28 December 2018, [Reuters](#)

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**UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY****(U) England – Authorities Arrest Syria-Related Terrorism Suspect at Airport**

(U) London – Authorities arrested a 32-year-old man at Luton airport on suspicion of Syria-related terrorism offenses. The man was detained by Metropolitan police counter-terror officers yesterday after arriving at the Bedfordshire airport on an inbound flight. The force said he was arrested on suspicion of preparation of terrorist acts, contrary to section 5 of the Terrorism Act. "The arrest is Syria-related and not related to any offences at the airport," a spokesman said.

SOURCE: 28 December 2018, [The Guardian](#)

**(U) France – US Department of State Updates Travel Advisory for Americans Visiting France**

(U) Paris – The US Department of State updated its Level 2 Travel Advisory for Americans visiting France on 26 December. This travel advisory is for France countrywide due to terrorism since terrorist groups continue plotting possible attacks. The State Department said "security measures in France remain heightened due to ongoing threats posed by transnational terrorist organizations and individuals inspired by extremist ideology throughout Europe." Extremists continue to focus on tourist locations such as holiday markets, shopping malls, airports, clubs, restaurants, places of worship, transportation hubs, and other soft targets frequented by Westerners.

SOURCE: 26 December 2018, [US Department of State](#)

**(U) South Korea – Unidentified Hacker Steals Data on 1,000 North Korean Defectors**

(U) Gumi – The personal information of nearly 1,000 North Koreans who defected to South Korea has been leaked after unknown hackers got access to a resettlement agency's database, the South Korean Unification Ministry said today. The ministry said it discovered last week that the names, birth dates and addresses of 997 defectors had been stolen through a computer infected with malicious software at an agency called the Hana center, in the southern city of Gumi. "The malware was planted through emails sent by an internal address," a ministry official told reporters on condition of anonymity, due to the sensitivity of the issue, referring to a Hana center email account. The ministry official declined to say if North Korea was believed to have been behind the hack, or what the motive might have been, saying a police investigation was under way to determine who did it.

SOURCE: 27 December 2018, [Reuters](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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